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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,896	06/24/2003	Jeffrey Allen Neilsen	100201650-1	4887

7590 10/12/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

TENTONI, LEO B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1732

DATE MAILED: 10/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/603,896

Applicant(s)

NEILSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Leo B. Tentoni

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06242003</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of Group I, claims 1-19 in the reply filed on 13 September 2005 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

2. Claims 20-47 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 13 September 2005.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: METHOD OF IMPROVING COLOR QUALITY IN AN OBJECT PRODUCED BY SOLID FREEFORM FABRICATION.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3 and 9-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shields et al (U.S. Patent 5,181,045 A).

Shields et al (see the entire document, in particular, col. 2, lines 1-11; col. 2, line 26 to col. 3, line 44) teach a process including the steps of ejecting a first material containing a colorant, and causing a reaction that keeps the colorant near a surface of the formed object (by "crashing" or precipitating the colorant out of the material). The aspect of solid freeform fabrication in the preamble of claim 1 is not considered to be a claim limitation and is of no significance in claim construction in this instance because the body of claim 1 fully and intrinsically sets forth all of the limitations of the claimed invention (Pitney Bowes, Inc. v. Hewlett-Packard Co., 182 F.3d 1298, 1305, 51USPQ2d 1161, 1165 (Fed. Cir. 1999)).

6. Claims 1-3 and 9-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schmid et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0147630 A1). Schmid et al (see the entire

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document, in particular, paragraphs [0002] and [0003]) teach a process including the steps of ejecting a first material containing a colorant, and causing a reaction that keeps the colorant near a surface of the formed object (by "crashing" or precipitating the colorant out of the material). The aspect of solid freeform fabrication in the preamble of claim 1 is not considered to be a claim limitation and is of no significance in claim construction in this instance because the body of claim 1 fully and intrinsically sets forth all of the limitations of the claimed invention (Pitney Bowes, Inc. v. Hewlett-Packard Co., 182 F.3d 1298, 1305, 51USPQ2d 1161, 1165 (Fed. Cir. 1999)).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary.

Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jang et al (U.S. Patent 6,401,002 B1) in combination with either Shields et al (U.S. Patent 5,181,045 A)

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or Schmid et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication
2004/0147630 A1).

Note that in this rejection, the aspect of solid freeform fabrication (in the preamble of claim 1) has been considered to be a claim limitation and is of significance in claim construction.

Jang et al (see the entire document, in particular, col. 5, lines 45-54; col. 7, lines 30-40; col. 8, lines 27-39) teach a solid freeform fabrication process of making an object by ejecting a first material containing a colorant as claimed, except that Jang et al do not explicitly teach causing a reaction that keeps the colorant near the surface of the object, which is taught by Shields et al (see the entire document, in particular, col. 2, lines 1-11; col. 2, line 26 to col. 3, line 44) and Schmid et al (see the entire document, in particular, paragraphs [0002] and [0003]) (note that Shields et al and Schmid et al teach causing a reaction that keeps the colorant near a surface of the formed object (by "crashing" or precipitating the colorant out of the material)) and such would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made in the process of Jang et al in view of either Shields et al or Schmid et al principally in order to provide an object having a desired color.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leo B. Tentoni whose telephone number is (571) 272-1209. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (6:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael P. Colaianni can be reached on (571) 272-1196. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Leo B. Tentoni

Leo B. Tentoni
Primary Examiner
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